

C /44 cont./

491 to Ch'en-chou, Mo-yang, and Chih-chiang; the military roads
M lead to Kan-ch'eng, Yung-sui, and T'ung-jen; the civilian
[487] roads lead to P'u-shih and Kan-ch'eng; and the Miao roads are
on both sides of the military routes, threading out in all direc-
tions so numerous that they defy enumeration. The official
and the military roads are all paved with stone slabs (Illus. 20),
requiring considerable construction work. The civilian roads
were not constructed in a uniform way, those passing prosperous
areas being much better than others. The Miao paths generally
follow the contours of the mountains and require very little hu-
man labor. As to the means of transportation, travelers /illus-
trations 18-26 occur on pp. 45-52/ /53/ generally ride horses
or ride in sedan chairs (Illus. 21), while cargo is carried by
carriers on their backs.

M
[487] Bridges. — The bridge in the Miao area involve con-
siderable construction work. On important communication
roads, they generally built three or five-arch bridges (Illus. 11),
on which were built houses for hotels and restaurants for the
convenience of travelers. Places where a river is wide and
shallow are spanned by long bridges (Illus. 22, 23). Places
where a river is wide and deep are crossed by rope bridges
(Illus. 24). In small streams which are narrow and have sand-
banks they sat up stone steps, customarily called 'ho shui ch'iao
/"bridge enclosing the water"/ (Illus. 25), or they build small
bridges (Illus. 26) over them.